

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KHARTO 00850 251039Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 /091 W

-----038758 260047Z /61

R 250936Z FEB 78

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6651

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY SANA

USINT HAVANA

DIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KHARTOUM 0850

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MOPS, SU, ET, YS

SUBJECT: YEMENI PILOT TALKS TO ERITREAN CAPTORS

1. PDRY PILOT SHAWGI HASSAN EL KHATIEB WAS SHOT DOWN OVER AGORDAT ON FEBRUARY 15 WHILE FLYING MIG 21. INTERROGATION OF FIRST LIEUTENANT SHAWGI WAS RECORDED AND ACCOUNT PUBLISHED FEBRUARY 25 BY SUNA WHICH CLAIMS INVOLVEMENT IN INTERROGATION. OTHER QUESTIONERS WERE ELP AND EPLF.

2. SHAWGI IS 30 YEARS OLD AND MARRIED WITH TWO CHILDREN. HE SAID HE WAS EDUCATED IN ADEN AND COMPLETED 3-YEAR AVIATION TRAINING IN USSR. HE FLEW MIG-21 FROM ADEN TO ASMARA, ARRIVING FEBRUARY 13, ON ORDERS FROM DEPUTY COM-
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MANDER OF PDRY AIR FORCE WHO ALLEGEDLY SAID IT WAS "TRAINING MISSION." SHAWGI SAID HE WAS TO TRAIN ETHIOPIAN PILOTS ON CERTAIN WEAPONS AND TO GIVE FLYING LESSONS IN ASMARA.

3. ON FEBRUARY 15 SHAWGI WAS ORDERED BY ETHIOPIAN COLONEL TEGN (SIC) TO ATTACK AGORDAT, WHERE HE WAS

SHOT DOWN. HE TOLD INTERROGATORS THAT HE HAD NEVER
TAKEN PART IN WAR BEFORE AND EXPECTED HIS CAPTORS TO
TREAT HIM WELL WHICH THEY ARE DOING. HE FURTHER CLAIMED
HE HAD NOT DEFECTED EARLIER BECAUSE HE FEARS FOR HIS
FAMILY IN ADEN.

4. COMMENT: SUNA HAS GOOD CONNECTIONS WITH ERITREAN
FORCES AND SEEMS PROUD OF THIS "SCOOP." NEWS ACCOUNT
OF PILOT'S HISTORY AND CAPTURE AVOIDS ANY ANTI-ETHIOPIAN
COMMENTARY WHICH MIGHT AFFECT DELICATE SUDAN-ETHIOPIAN
NEGOTIATIONS FOR LESSENING OF TENSIONS ACROSS BORDER.
BERGUS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POW, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation Codes:
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
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SAS ID: 3476791
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TAGS: MOPS, PBOR, SOPN, SU, ET, YS, (EL KHATIEB, SHAWGI HASSAN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/56a2b5cf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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